

Hist. of Poland vol. 1.
A PARTICULAR

DESCRIPTION

OF THE

City of *Dantzick*:

I T S

FORTIFICATIONS,	RIVER,
EXTENT,	HARBOUR,
TRADE,	GOVERNMENT,
GRANARIES,	PUNISHMENTS,
STREETS,	FORCES,
PUBLICK and	RELIGION and
PRIVATE BUILDINGS,	CHURCHES.

With many other

REMARKABLE CURIOSITIES.

By an *English* Merchant, lately Resident there.

L O N D O N :

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City of Danzig.

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River, 1
 Maybour, 1
 Government, 1
 University, 1
 House, 1
 Religion and
 Church, 1

1950-1951

LEMMARKABE CURIOSITÄT.



By the Hon. Mr. Justice G. B. Abbott

:Y O E K O A

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T H E
P R E F A C E.

THE unhappy Condition, with respect to the Election of a Polish King, that the fine Trading City of Dantzick is at present expos'd to, for its zealous Attachment to the Person of Stanislaus, (the French King, his ~~Father~~ in Law, weightily supporting the Magistrates, 'tis to be presum'd, with his convincing Louis d' Ors.) The unfortunate Circumstances, I say, attending it, from the Confederate Armies of Saxons and Russians investing the Town in Behalf of the Elector of Saxony, who have already gained great Advantages over it, the Fate and Consequences of which attract the Attention of all Europe, induc'd me to survey some
loose

P R E F A C E.

loose Memoirs I had made of that Place, whilst I was there about eleven Years ago, and digest them into a better Method, which without Vanity I affirm to be the fullest and truest Account of any extant, though some Errors may have escaped me; and which will serve to confute several Falsities communicated, by Copying without Enquiry, and inserted as Truths into some of the best reputed modern Pieces of Geography. I shall instance in two egregious ones, which you will find in the Atlas, p. 250. amongst its Remarks. It is said, that there is exported yearly from Dantzick in Corn about 730000 Tun, that I may not mistake in Figures, Seven Hundred and Thirty Thousand Tunns, which Quantity is as much as they vend even with a brisk Demand in the Compass of nine Years. The second is, that St. Mary's Church contains 3722, I say Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty two Windows, which at a moderate Computation is more than all the Churches of Dantzick have together, and within forty Miles round it. This will serve to evince a Supposition of other Rhodomantadors; and the Generality of Geography Writers are guilty of the same Contagion of conveying Errors, though they alter the Method; for it must be allowed, that all Places are subject to great Changes

P R E F A C E.

Changes in every Circumstance by Time it self, without so sudden impetuous ones, occasioned by Revolutions in War. The World indeed may ever despair of having a general System of Geography, the relations of which, even at the Time they are writ, depend upon entire Facts; unless a Set of Men enter into a Society and general Correspondence with all Parts, which would procure attested Relations of every respective Place, together with their own practical Knowledge. Antient Accidents befallen them before our Time, are no otherwise to be collected but out of prior Writings, the Preservers of them. As there are several such Incidents intermix'd in this Narration, I consulted those Authorities which may be esteem'd incontestable; for the rest it all proceeds from my own Observations. So that I shall add nothing further, but that the View of Publishing this, is to give a Mixture of Pleasure and Concern to those into whose Hands this may fall; whether such as have been personally present at the Place, or are well affected to it. When I reflect upon its Grandeur, its Trade, and the Pleasure I received there, I cannot but sincerely wish it may extricate it self from the dangerous dreadful Storm impending over it, by a safe Capitulation.

I have

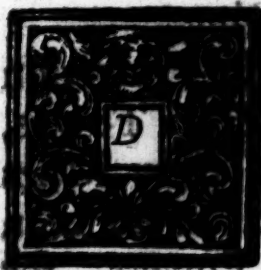
P R E F A C E

I have made Enquiry in Germany both for a Prospect and Plan of the Town, but could never hear of any ever being taken in any Size to give one an Idea of it, which is much wanting, and somewhat strange was not done; those who can draw, have good Opportunities from many advanced Places of completing fine Prospects of it.





A
DESCRIPTION
 O F
DANTZICK.



DANTZICK lies in the Territory of *Pomerellia*, or Palatinate of *Dantzick*, in that part of *Prussia* which goes by the Name of *Royal*, West of *Ducal Prussia*, which last was erected into a Kingdom *Anno 1701*, in the Person of *Frederick* Elector of *Brandenburg*, which by that Change and Continuance still of their old Titles, conveys with them a sort of a Paradox.

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This

This City, till the Year 1170, consisted only of some Fishermens Cottages, and was antiently a part of *Pomerania*, till separated from it by *Meslevin* the second Duke thereof, who dying without Male Issue, left it to *Primislaus* King of the *Poles*, who *Anno* 1295 erected it into a City, and annexed it to the Crown of *Poland*. It has suffer'd many Révolutions. About the Year 1100 the *Danes* possess'd it, afterwards the *Polanders* gained it: In 1305, the *Teutonick* Knights were Masters of it: In 1454, *Casimir* fourth King of *Poland* regained it, and granted great Privileges to the Citizens; who afterwards in Defence of the *Augsbourg* or *Lutheran* Confession, sided with *Maximilian* of *Austria* against the *Poles*; which provoked King *Stephen Bathori* to besiege them in 1577; but, by the Mediation of other Princes, they were restored to their Liberties in 1597. And in 1632, the City was made a Member of the State, and admitted to a Vote on the Election of a King.

It is a free Republick, under the Protection of *Poland*, one of the chief old *Hans* Towns, and has a Jurisdiction of above forty Miles in Circumference. Of late it has often been molested by the neighbouring Powers, for exacting large Contributions; and though in 1706, the Queen of *England*, King of *Prussia*, and States of *Holland* made a League to protect it, yet the Czar, *Peter I.* took it in his Head, without Provocation, to call on them
twice

twice for large Sums, a grievous Weight upon the Inhabitants, and what they durst not refuse; so that neither their *Polish* Protector, nor grand triple Alliance, did them any Service. And at this very Time, they are closely besieged by General *Leslie* and *Munich*, the *Czarina's* Generals, in Conjunction with the *Poles* and *Saxons* of the Party of King *Augustus* III. for their espousing the *French* Interest in the Person of *Stanislaus*, and harbouring of him, which 'tis believed they must abandon, and capitulate to the Confederates Proposals, or else undergo the Ruin of their City, which is so apparently threatened: So though it is called a free Republick, it is too weak for its own Support; and those whom it chuses for Protectors, are unwilling to defend it.

Upon Account of a signal Service, which one of the *Douglass* Family did to this City, in relieving it in its utmost Extremity against the *Poles*; the *Scots* were allowed to be free Burghers of the Town, and had several other Immunities granted them above other Foreigners; but now excepting the Successors of those who were so incorporated, they have no Distinction of Privileges; but indeed a better half of the Families or Inhabitants are of *Scotch* Extraction.

It is situated by the River *Wexel* or *Weissell*, Latin *Vistula*, which rises from the *Carpatian* Mountains, that separate *Poland* from
 B 2 Hungary,

Hungary, sixty Miles beyond *Cracow*, making a winding Course of about 440 Miles, watering in its Passage *Cracow*, *Warsaw* and *Thorn*, and at last, passing by *Dantzick*, discharges it self into the Gulph or Bay of that Place, having first divided it self into several Branches, and made the Islands called the *Werder*; the larger Branch passes by *Marienburg*, a City about twenty four Miles S. E. and falls into the great Lake called *Frisch Haff*: The Branch which goes to *Dantzick* is one of the least of them, which is the Occasion that great Ships have not Depth of Water to come loaded into the Harbour. Between the Mouth of the River and the Port, there is a Fort which is called the *Light House*, where there is a Light every Night, which is a Direction as far off to all Ships making to the Harbour.

The Harbour at the Town receives Ships of above fifty Lafts: Those of great Burthen deliver and receive their Cargoes at the *Weissell Munde*, or Entrance of the *Weissell*; and oft, when the Weather is calm, in *Dantzick Road*, which is eight to fifteen Fathom deep.

Anno 1720 in the middle of the *Weissell*, a new Wood Battery was built in the Water, fortified round with Cannon, opposite to an even Canal, cut an *English Mile* and a half, which for quick Dispatch leads to the *Munde* by *Tair Water*, a Village on the left Side: Here is a large cover'd Boat, the same as
your

your *Holland Tracht Shuyts*, drawn by a single Horse, which plies to and fro all the Day, that its coming and returning is almost constant to a Minute, which in fine Weather draws Abundance of Company thither, as well for Pleasure as Business; having publick Houses prettily situated on the Sides for Accommodation and Diversions. This Canal on the East, and the Course of the River *Weissell* to the West, makes an Island which is called *Holm*.

The *Munde* is a little fortified Castle, commanding the whole Navigation of the Gulph and Entrance into the River and Harbour, where all Ships send a Person on Shore thither to make a Report. Its about three Miles distant from the Town, and six Leagues from the *Heel*, a small running Point of Land, which forms the Bay. The Sea all over the *Baltick* never flows nor ebbs. It is also watered by two small narrow Brooks, the *Rodaun* and *Moldau*, taking their Springs about sixteen Miles to the South; the *Rodaun* is not above four or five Yards broad, has a constant clear Current, and supplies the Town with fresh Water, serves to fill up the Trenches; besides in its way driving several Mills upon it, one of which for Corn may vie with any in *Europe*, having eighteen Stones going at a Time, and which brings the King of *Poland* every Hour throughout the Year a golden Ducat, besides the Profit to the Proprietors;

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so that the yearly Revenue of this single Mill to the King is worth above 4000 *l.* Sterling a Year, a Ducat being in Value eight *Polish* Guilders, or Ten Shillings.

On the W. and by S. are a Range of high sandy Hills, whereon are built the Villages called *Hagelburg*, *Bischoffburg* and *Stoltzenburg*, which signify *Hail*, *Bishop* and *Proud Hills*. The latter, *Stoltzenburg*, is the Habitation of the most abandoned Whores in Nature. Its common with them to attack all Strangers they meet with, in the impudentest Manner, no matter if in the open Street and at Noon-day: Those that are not for their Lures they let alone; but whoever has the Misfortune to get into their Hands, they demolish and fire him. One cannot forbear wondering that such Miscreants should be allowed to breathe in so fine an Air, being more suitable for Building a Monarch's Pleasure-House, being the most beautiful Situation that can be imagined, from whence one commands an entire View over the whole Town and Suburbs, with the Harbour, Ships, Road, and even to the Sea. And to the South is a delightful Prospect of the adjacent Country: Those Hills are look'd upon to be highly prejudicial for the Town's Defence in Case of an Attack by an Enemy; but *Bishop Hill*, and the Eminences opposite to the Town, are lately fortified with Redoubts, &c. and constant Watch kept upon them. I was informed that

that they were viewed since by an understanding General and Engineer, who demonstrated, that, instead of attempting to level them, which in some Parts they have been a long Time a doing, and to compleat would be the Work of Ages, running so far into the Land, if they would build Fortresses upon them, to have a Communication one with another, the Town, in Case of a Siege, would be so far from receiving a Disadvantage from them, that on the contrary it would be rendered thereby almost seemingly impregnable. Whether the Magistrates will be at the Charge of making such Improvements and Fortresses for their Security, Time will show.

The Town of *Dantzick* within the Walls is divided into three Cities called, *viz.*

<i>Voorstadt</i>	} which are the	<i>Fore City</i>
<i>Altstadt</i>		<i>Old City</i>
<i>Reichstadt</i>		<i>Emperor's City.</i>

It was first wall'd round by the Knights of the *Teutonick* Order in 1343, whose Master, *Conrad Wallenrodt*, built that Part called the *Reichstadt*, Anno 1390; and they were improved after the Irruption which the *Swedes* made into *Poland* in 1655, which two Years after in 1657 obliged them to burn their Suburbs, to prevent their being taken.

In the present Condition they are vastly strong, high, with many vaulted and cover'd ways, which are well mounted with Ordnance

of

of several Sizes of Cannon, and contain twenty Bastions, still defended by a broad and deep Trench of Water, handsomely faced with Free-stone at the Sides of the Scarps and Counterscarp.

On the Inside they are so large, that two Coaches can pass a-breast, in several Places beautified with regular Rows of Trees, from whence is a Prospect of the Town, and direct Vista's into the Length of some of the principal Streets.

These Walls inclose the three Cities, which have as many Gates out of them with Draw-Bridges, and constant Centries; one at each End belonging to the old City to the North East, and the other to the Fore-City South East, with the great central Gate Westward, leading from the Emperor's City. Its Form is semicircular, and its Extent betwixt two or three Miles Compass: But then add to this the large Space immediately out of the great Gate, to the right Hand, as far as to the outer Gate West, the Road to the *Olive*, which also has a Draw-Bridge and Centry; and to the End of the large Suburbs of *Schotland* Southward, with the Granaries, and that part of the Suburbs beyond them to the East, called *Neu Gare*, which at their Entrances are all well guarded and defended with a lesser Rampart; all these included together will make the Circumference take up above eight *English* Miles.

Its

Its GRANARIES.

The Granaries of *Dantzick*, for hoarding Corn, are not to be equal'd in all *Europe*; making an entire Town of lofty Buildings, divided into several Streets, and separated from the *Reichstadt* only by a large Draw-Bridge to the East, called the *Green Bridge*. It is encompassed with Water, that Boats may load and unload at those Granary Doors, which lie contiguous to them.

The Magazines differ in Bigness and Size, few lower than five Stories: The Chambers have for a more easy Conveyance Funnels or Pipes to let down the Corn at their Pleasure from one Chamber into another. It is open all Day-time for Trade, and the Ground-Rooms are generally large Ware-houses, well stocked with all sorts of valuable Merchandise for Wholesale. There are two Granaries built by Sir *William Brown*, exceeding the rest for Magnitude, so large as to contain each 2000 Lafts, 60 Scheffels or Bushels making one Laft. At Evening the Bridges are drawn up, and not a single Person is permitted to lodge there; and for the better Security they keep a Breed of Mastiffs close confin'd all Day, which the Keepers let loose for a Guard to range about in the Night, which it is said are so furious in their Natures, as inevitably to fall foul on and destroy any Person they

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should

should meet with, and yet well distinguish, and be as passive to their Feeders as Spaniels. Their best Dogs are from our *English* Breed.

TRADE.

Its Trade is very considerable, receiving the Product of *Poland*, chiefly by the River *Weissell*, consisting of Corn, Linnen, Pot-ash, Plank, &c. In Return for which, the *Poles* receive what they want of foreign Growth and Manufacture, viz. Cloth, Silks, Stuffs, Leather, Sugar, Oyls, Lead, Herrings, and all the Spices, which they use in very great Quantities to season their Fish and other Meat. The Wines, Salt and Brandy, which come from *France* in great Abundance, the *Polish* Nation consumes little of, but supplies part of *Prussia* therewith; for Wine they prefer that of *Hungary*, being well supply'd, though at a dear Rate. Brandy they make sufficient for their own Uses, and of all kinds from Corn; and the Variety of strong Waters distill'd at *Dantzick*, are not to be equall'd any where for their Goodness; and as to Salt, their Country abounds sufficiently with it; but the vast Quantities of Grain they receive from *Poland*, which abounds therein, being a fertile Plain and champagne Country, makes it the greatest Mart for the Exportation of that Commodity of any Place in *Europe*. Vast Fleets of *Holland* Ships come yearly to fetch almost

almost all the Corn us'd in *Holland* and *Zealand*. The Medium of their Exports in Corn of all sorts annually is betwixt 30 and 40000 Lafts. From the *Weissell*, out of a Branch which runs into the *Frisch-Haff*, a great Lake sixty Miles long, and in some eight Miles broad, it has an Inland Communication thereby, with *Elbing*, *Pilau* and *Königsberg*. Its Nearness to the Sea bids a welcome Access to all Foreigners, besides its constant Traffick of sending and receiving Goods several hundred Miles up the Country, even as far as *Hamburg*; that so many Necessities being supplied from hence by their Trade, 'tis not in the least to be admired how the Town is become so populous, rich and considerable, as at present it appears; the Inhabitants being computed Two Hundred Thousand in Number.

The whole Town, as has been observ'd, is encompassed with the same strong Ramparts and Wall, but is divided into three Cities by their respective Gates. *Reichstadt* and *Voorstadt* lie much upon the same Line, but the *Altstadt*, in its whole Extent, lies beyond the *Reichstadt* to the North West; so that the utmost Length of the City is to be taken from the *Altstadt* Gate in the Rampart, to the *Green Bridge* which joins the Granaries, and is above an *English* Mile and a half, though it is not direct, but a little oblique; and the entire Breadth takes up both *Reichstadt* and

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Voorstadt,

Voorstadt, to the Extremities of which are above two Miles.

But the Beauty and Admiration of all, for Magnificence, Regularity and Trade, belongs to the *Reichstadt*, which is made to signify the Emperor's City, upon Account of the Word *Reich* being often apply'd to the Empire: But the same Word denotes Wealth and Riches; that my Opinion is, to call it the opulent City, were the better Translation: What is the most curious and worthy of Observation in it, the Particulars which follow are a faithful and exact Account.

The whole Length of the *Reichstadt*, from West to East, from the handsom inner Gate at the Beginning of the *Lang Gass*, to the Granary *Green Bridge*, is not half a Mile. Its Breadth, from South to North, contiguous to the *Voorstadt*, and so leading to the Road which goes to the Harbour, is above a Mile: From thence to the Canal, which goes to the Road and the *Munde*, which I before took Notice of, is about another Mile; a Walk exceeding pleasant, all by the Side of the River, commonly full of Ships of various Nations, to which at the Entrance you must ferry over a narrow Pass upon a little flat Boat or Bottom, without any Sides; and after that, at some Distance, you go over a floating Bridge, whose Water, by the Pressure of the Passenger, if you walk heavily and slowly, comes over its Surface.

The

The principal Streets, running in Lines beyond one another, are,

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. <i>Hund Gafs.</i> | <i>Dog Street.</i> |
| 2. <i>Lang Gafs.</i> | <i>Long Street.</i> |
| 3. <i>Grofs Hof.</i> | <i>Great Court.</i> |
| 4. <i>Brotbancken Gafs.</i> | |
| 5. <i>Joppen Gafs.</i> | |
| 6. <i>Frawen Gafs.</i> | <i>Woman Street.</i> |
| 7. <i>Heiligen Gerst Gafs.</i> | <i>Holy Ghost Street.</i> |
| 8. <i>Brent Gafs, &c.</i> | <i>Broad Street.</i> |

The Houses in all these Streets in general are built of Brick and Stone, commonly five, six or more Stories high, with handsome embellished Outfides, having in the middle an Ascent of Steps, conducting to the Entrance, with Galleries on each Side. The Fronts are variously beautified with Plaister, Marble and Painting, and most with Images or Statues on the Top, according to their respective Fancies, which is vastly ornamental. Their Architecture within, for Contrivance, is none of the best, having at the first Entrance a huge Gigantick disproportionable Room, called the *Salle*, which takes up, to a needless Purpose, the best Part of the House, to the spoiling the Proportion of the other Rooms; besides their Taste runs not on making handsom Stair Cases, or light spacious Kitchens, which seldom have any Windows into them, struck directly from the Light, but what they receive is only a Reflection from the adjoining,

or

or some remoter Room; that most of them, besides their Littleness, are forced to burn Candles at Noon-Day to dress their Victuals; so that though their Buildings exceed ours in a very different Manner for external Beauty and Ornament, yet Ours for Contrivance, Method and Conveniency, far out-do theirs. I cannot but observe to the Reader, that when I first came to *Dantzick*, having seen no other City before I travell'd, but my native One in the North of *England*, and coming at once into the *Gross Hoff*, or *Great Court*, without any previous Notice of its Grandeur, the Surprize of its Spaciousness, elevated noble Houses, struck me on a sudden with such an Impression of Surprize, as I shall never be able to forget. Their Devices and Ornaments in their Buildings proceed from their own Invention, without regard to any of the five regular Orders, but that of the Composite. No one is permitted to build the Foundation of his House with the least In-croachment on his Neighbour's, or make any Outshot in the upper Stories, which contributes to form a delightful Visto in a charming Evenness and Regularity. On both Sides the Way are planted Walnut-Trees, which grow not high, but bear plentifully; each Street is supply'd with several publick Wells, prettily covered and painted, with Images on the Top which afford good Water; there are likewise in some perpetual running Conduits.

The

The Pavement of their Streets, to an *Englishman*, at first seems very irregular, being not able to keep them even, or so firmly conjoined as ours in *England*, and in the middle are a Line of the largest Cobbles; but a little Time reconciles one to them, and makes a Man ashamed to complain, when he sees the Women foot it so dexterously, and that in Slippers too, without making one false Trip, that a Man would wonder if they had any Concern for breaking their Necks, how they durst walk on them, but with the utmost Caution.

The Coffee-Houses are every Day thoroughly frequented, and have handsome Rooms with Painting, and the Floors laid with Marble; in some of them they are so nice, as not to permit a Pipe of Tobacco to be smoked; but that which exceeds all the rest, in *Dantzick*, is a Coffee-House called *Mummers*, adjoining to the Gate which separates the *Reichstadt* from the *Voorstadt*; he and his Family are *Manists*, and of obliging Tempers. There is a little square Spot of Ground adjoining to the House, thrown into a Garden, in the prettiest Order and Variety for the Compass, as could be contriv'd; having Fountains, a melodious Aviary, where the Birds build, breed, and sing upon Trees, with Abundance of agreeable painted little Arbours, for different Companies to spend a few Hours pleasantly in the Summer Season.

There

There are no Buildings set apart for the Entertainment and Lodging of great Persons, because the Magnificence of several private Houses will serve for that Purpose; and when the King of *Poland* comes, they fit up the Corner House, on the South Side of the *Hoff*, which at other Times is a Tavern, and the two next to it, which have a Communication for his Reception. It is opposite to the *Junker Hoff*, or Gentleman's Hall, and has excellent Paintings of Triumphs, &c. by the best Hands; amongst which are portraited Actions to the Memory of our Glorious King *William*, and the brave Duke of *Marlborough*. Most of the Houses have Rooms laid with black and white Marble, Diversity of Paintings, and valuably furnished; to particularise them would be voluminous, and exceed my Design. So having finished my Remarks of the Town in general; I proceed in the next Place to give an Account of the publick Places worth Observation, beginning at the great Western Door: Then I shall treat of its Government, Churches and Religion, and conclude with several Remarks on other Things deserving Observation.

Remarkable Places in *Dantzick*, chiefly in the *Reichstadt*, beginning from the Great Door, are,

1. *The Great Gate.*
2. *The Prison.*

3. *The*

3. *The Dominick, and Bear-Garden.*
4. *The Arsenal.*
5. *The Rath-House, or City Hall.*
6. *The Junger-Hoff, or Gentlemens Hall.*
7. *The Rath, or Town's Cellar.*
8. *The fine Conduit.*
9. *The Exchange.*
10. *The Wey-House.*
11. *The Long Gallery, or Bridge.*

**The GREAT WEST DOOR, called DOUG-
LASS GATE.**

1. The great Door, or West Gate, built in 1688, all of Free-Stone, with the Town's Arms upon it, and a vaulted covered Passage on each Side for the Safety of those on Foot, accounted, for Strength and Beauty, inferior to few in *Europe*. It has a large Draw-Bridge, over the great outward Basin, or Trench, which is drawn up, and its Gates shut, as well as all the rest belonging to the inner Town, Winter and Summer, at certain Hours. The altering of the Time, according to the Increase and Decrease of the Days, is notified by a Signal to all those, who are out, by ringing a Bell a full half Hour, during which Time, a Company of Serjeants keep Sentry upon the Bridge. On the inner Side, is a Detachment of Troopers on Horse-back, with their Swords unsheath'd, facing a Company of Foot Soldiers from the Guard-
D House,

House, at the same Time under Duty. And at a little Distance, opposite to the Gate, are a few small Cannon, with lighted Matches hanging to them: This is the constant half Hour's ceremonial every Day at shutting it; and it is incredible also to believe, and as surprizing to see the vast Number of Coaches and Crowds of Foot People, more especially on Sundays and Holidays, hastening from their Pleasures in the Country with pressing Haste this last half Hour, to prevent their Exclusion; after which there is no Admittance for any of what Quality or Condition soever: In common it goes by nothing but the Name of the *Great Door*, yet it is called *Douglass Gate*, in Memory of a *Scotchman* of that Name, who relieved the City in its utmost Danger; to the South are the largest Suburbs, called *Schotland*.

The PRISON.

2. Near the *Great Door* is the Publick Prison, a strong square Tower, handsomely covered with Copper. It stands uninlosed in the vacant Space leading to the *Dominick*, and almost opposite to the Gate entring into the *Reichstadt Lang-Gass*. Above the Door of it, is erected a Scaffold for whipping petty Criminals, which is performed in the open View of all, after this Manner: The Hands of the Criminals are drawn by a Rope through
a Pul-

a Pulley, as high as they can extend, so that their Feet just touch the Ground; then the Executioner falls to discharging his Office with several Birchen Rods; one he uses not for above ten Strokes; which he performs backwards and forwards with Might and Main, in a limited Number of Lashes, according to the Degree of Offence, and the Magistrates Sentence. All Strangers, condemned to be beheaded, are executed before this Place.

The DOMINICK.

3. The Place of *St. Dominick*, is nothing but a spacious Void to the left Hand of the Prison; where the great yearly Mefs or Mart, which they call here the *Dantz Dominick*, is begun every *August*, and kept some Weeks, consisting of several Streets of Booths, stock'd with all manner of rich Goods that can be named; which Times used to draw a great Resort of all Strangers, and was as famous formerly as the vast Mefs or Fairs of *Leipsick* and *Frankfort* are now: But at present, *Dantzick Dominick* is not to be compar'd with what it was; yet to those who are Strangers to this Alteration, Abundance of Business is negotiated. Besides it is no Reflection, for as its own Trade increas'd, it was natural for the other to decay, supplying all its own Wants by its Propinquity to the Sea, which the other Towns, far Inland, must be oblig'd for

their Necessities and Luxury, to have of all they can purchase, which is a certain Establishment of them. This Space, to the North, joins to another call'd the *Holtz-Markt*, or *Wood Market*, leading to the *Aldstadt*, and extends the whole Breadth of the *Reichstadt*, in a narrower Compass Southward, as far as the Bear Garden; which is a large Area for the Baiting of Bulls, Bears and wild Beasts, Amphitheatre-like, capable of containing a vast Number of Spectators, strongly inclosed with Wood, and having convenient Galleries for that Purpose, one above another.

The ARSENAL.

4. The *Arsenal* is built of Brick and Stone, in a singular Form; the East Front you enter, faces the *Joppen Street*, at the End of which the great Church of *St. Mary's* stands. And the West Front, is towards the Place of the *Dominick*; and upon that Cornish are several martial Statues and Trophies. Every one desirous to see it, must ask Leave of the General of the Town, who seldom denies any, and gives them his printed Order, inserting the Number of Persons, which they carry for a Permit. It consists of large Store Rooms. Immediately at your first coming in, you are surprized with the Effigies of a tall Man, bigger than the Life, rowling both his Eyes, in a fiery and dreadful Manner; above him

him is this Inscription in golden Letters:
**FELIX EST CIVITAS QUÆ TEMPORE PACIS
 COGITAT DE BELLO.**

The Ground Room is very spacious, wherein are repositied all their Mortars, Cannon and Ball, and all round the Walls Bullets and Powder. They will not give an Answer to any Questions ask'd concerning their Strength. In a Corner on the South West, is a little Apartment, wherein is a valuable Monument of *Sigismund III.* King of *Poland* in Alabaſter, lying in his regal Ornaments; and above him are placed the Heads of ſeveral other Kings of *Poland* in Buſtoes. Beyond this great Room, ſeparated by a little narrow Yard, is a Place called the Apothecary's Shop, when the Bottom, Sides and Roof are fully furniſhed, very much in Imitation of the Name it goes by, where are vaſt Variety of ſpecificall Balls and Powders, invented to antedate mortal Life, with infallible Succeſs for the Pleaſure of ambitious Tyrants.

Whilst they are ſhowing to Strangers theſe low Rooms, they ſcrew up ſeveral Pieces of curious Armoury in Clockwork above Stairs. The firſt Story is divided into three Apartments, which is full of their choiceſt portable Armour for their Cavalry and Infantry; as Guns, Swords of all kinds, with Pikes, Helms, Back and Breſt Plates, kept exceeding clean and in good Order, and ſome of them diſpoſ'd into human Figures: At the Entrance
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is a Figure representing *Terror* all in Armour, continually shaking his Head, heaving and brandishing a naked Sword at you. At one End of the Apartment is a King of *Poland*, and at the other the Earl of *Egmond*, both on Horseback under a Canopy, full as big as the Life, compleatly equipp'd in Armour *Cap a Pie*.

In the second Chamber, upon entering it, his *Imperial Majesty*, accoutred like *Mars*, presents himself to full View at the End of it, sitting upon his regal Throne in bright polished Armour; who upon your Approach rises from his Seat, and makes a solemn low Bow to the Spectators; then sits him down again, whilst a Drummer at a little Distance beats all the Time, and a Guard of one Sentinel on each side of him performs their Duty.

In the third Chamber, there is another Effigy in Armour in the middle of it, standing in almost an erect Posture, with a Gun in his Hands, extended as though he was taking Sight; which, without any previous Expectation, discharges it self to the Surprize of those who are admiring it. These Designs are suitably chose, *a propos* to the Place, and awaken in the Mind just Ideas and Sentiments of War.

In the Chambers above these, are repositied vast Quantities of the oldest Armour, kept in the same Regularity, but nothing that is curious;

rious: In the whole, this Magazine will supply, upon Necessity, Arms and Ammunition for several Thousand Men.

The TOWN-HALL.

5. *The Rath* or City Hall, is a large antique *Gothick* Edifice, at the End of the *Lang Gass*, whose Steeple fronts part of the *Gross Hoff* or Great Court. All the three Cities have their distinct Halls for Council and Business, but this for Magnificence exceeds the rest, having a very high and curious Spire, all neatly carved and gilded, and upon the Steeple is a Clock, and a Set of Chimes, which plays every Hour.

The JUNKER HOFF.

6. *The Junker Hoff*, or Gentleman's Hall just adjoining, is a little Free-stone Building of the *Gothick* Taste, which is open all Day, and has a thorough Passage. Here the Town People keep Stalls for all sorts of Toys, in a high vaulted Hall, wherein are Variety of beautiful Workmanship, as large engraved Images, some Armoury, several Models of Ships compleatly rigged, curious Triumphs and Processions, cut out and placed along the Sides of the Walls, some of them of Ivory set in Glass, and Pieces of exquisite Painting, besides other Curiosities. There is one Paint-
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ing in Memory of *St. Hubert*, Patron of Hunters, with a Cross betwixt his Horns, and the Dogs paying Reverence to it. Another, wherein is delineated Heaven and Hell, with the World in the middle. Upon a third, on the Top is a burning Candle, drawn so exceeding natural, that the longer you look at it, the more real and lively it appears: Amongst the Horns, there is one Stag Horn which has thirty two Branches. Here is a Gallery for Musick, in which is performed a Confort once a Week, or oftner, voluntarily, for the Pleasures of People *en passant*. And on the South East Corner is a Court, where the Town Magistrates hear Civil Causes, and adjudge Criminals. At particular Times when they sit, they hang up a fine valuable Piece of Tapestry: The Iron Stove carried up to the Top of the Room is very high and curious; whereon is a *Wahrzeichen*, and the first I ever saw. They are particular Devices designed for Trials, to know whether a Man be a real Traveller or not: They are comically imagined, but generally smutty, and are frequent in publick Places in *Germany*, which from the Singularity of them, are supposed to leave a stronger Impression on the Memory, and so become a Test to detect Impostures; for if a Man pretends he has been at such and such a Place, and seen such and such Things, if there was a *Wahrzeichen* there, and he cannot resolve what it was, he is blown up.

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This I am relating upon the *Juncker Hoff* on the Stove, is that of an old Woman viewing her Posteriors in a Glass. Those who are not appriz'd of it, may easily overlook it, and may be put upon, as I was by my Friend that accompanied me thither, and diverted me from taking Notice of it, by offering a Wager, that I could not touch both the Angles of that Side, with my utmost Extension, which seems not at all difficult. No sooner to Tryal I went, with a little stretching, but he falls immoderately laughing at me, with How smells it, how smells it? I was some Time a discovering of it, and found the Occasion, for the old Woman is so artfully plac'd, that I had my Nose and Mouth presently in her Backside. There is another after the same manner, of a Man straining a Sir Rev—ce into a Dish: This is a Digression, the Explanation of which will serve for all others. The *Juncker Hoff* is situated at the North West Corner of the *Gross Hoff*, and has a spacious Entrance into it, by a Descent of Steps. All Burghers or Citizens that are sentenced to be beheaded, are executed before this Place. Close by, is a Publick House for the Magistrates, adorned on the Top with handsome gilded Images.

RATH - CELLARS.

7. Underneath the *Juncker Hoff* is the *Rath* or Town Cellars; a titular Distinction which

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most in the City assume of a *Rath's Cellar*. They are not exceeding spacious, yet go under Ground from one Street to another; and have several little Apartments curiously vaulted, where you are supplied with excellent refreshing Wine, grateful to the Palate. The sudden Change in entering them in Summer Time, from an excessive Heat to a most agreeable Coolness, is as if we were transported into a different Climate: They are oblig'd to burn Candles in them all the Day long.

LARGE CONDUIT.

8. Nigh by, and directly opposite to the *Juncker Hoff*, is a noble perpetual running Conduit, with a great Copper Statue, representing *Neptune* and his scaly Attendants throwing up Water. It is surrounded with Iron Spikes, close to which is the Market for Carp, all alive in Pails of Water.

EXCHANGE.

9. In this part of the Great Court, is the daily Exchange of Merchants, held in the open Air. It begins at Eleven, and holds till One, where are a Resort of many Foreigners, chiefly *English, Scotch and Hollanders*: They are at a Loss for Room on all Days but *Saturdays*. Here the Butchery or Flesh Market is kept, and is a very noble and well provided one, but

but reduces the Merchants into so narrow a Compass, as if they were metamorphos'd into so many Graziers.

WEY-HOUSE and LONG-BRIDGE by the Harbour.

These are all that are chiefly remarkable; except the *Wey-House* and its Chambers, at the End leading to the *Green-Bridge*, over the Harbour to the Granaries. On the Town's side to the left Hand, is a long Wood-Walk, traversing the Eastward Ends of the principal Streets of the *Reichstadt*, close to which the Ships lye, and is very useful for Business, as well as the only Spot for clean Walking, when all other Places besides are dirty. The Grandeur and Magnificence of the *Hoff*, or Great Court, I have before expatiated on; so in the next Place, I shall describe its Government, &c.

Its GOVERNMENT.

Dantzick is divided into three Cities; each has its peculiar *Burgher-Master* or Mayor, a limited Number of *Rath-bern* or Aldermen, with their respective *Guild-Halls* for Consultation and Dispatch of Business: These with the *Centum-Viri*, or Common-Council of 100 Burghers or Citizens, promiscuously elected out of all three, make together but one Senate

and Government. The Common-Council presents the Town's Grievances, maintain their Privileges, and inspect the Conduct of the upper Senators. To these the King of *Poland* nominates a Burgrave to personate him in the Senate, and sign all Sentences of Death, to whom they allow half the Revenue from the Customs, which has been continued ever since the Reign of King *Sigismund Augustus*, the last of the Male Issue of *Jagello*, who begun his Reign in 1548; who for the *Dantzickens* Presumption, in proposing some provoking Conditions to him, before they would suffer his Deputies to enter their City, impos'd and oblig'd them to grant him that Tribute. The Magistrates continue for Life, and determine all Criminal Causes without Appeal, and even condemn to Death the Gentlemen of *Poland* themselves, if they commit any Crime within their Jurisdiction deserving Capital Punishment; as likewise all Civil Causes, not exceeding a thousand Guilders; which if any Appeal from, to the Tribunal of *Poland*, they are obliged to deposite a hundred Guilders in the Town House, for that Liberty, to prevent the Frequency of them. They, with the Concurrence of the *Centum-Viri*, lay all Taxes upon the Inhabitants, coin their Money from a Mint of their own, without Leave or Permission from the Republick of *Poland*; the King's Effigy on one Side, and their Arms, which are three Crowns, on the Reverse, They

They chuse their own Ministers, for supplying their Churches, which is a general Custom amongst the *Lutherans*; and are much better serv'd, than where a Right of imposing them by Patrons prevails. Though the People of *Dantzick* may, from those Instances, be reckoned a Republick, and a particular Sovereign State; yet, to show their Dependency on *Poland*, they are obliged to send to the Diets two Deputies, who never fail to speak in the Name of the Senate of *Dantzick*, and who always are interrupted by the Chancellour, enjoining their Silence, and forbidding them to take that Quality upon them, which nevertheless they are sure to take afterwards in the following Diets, and have their Suffrage therein; they also maintain a Secretary constantly at the Court.

PUNISHMENTS.

The Capital Executions of the unfortunate Transgressors of their Laws, are Beheading, Breaking on the Wheel, and Hanging; Beheading is the most frequent. To those that are broke on the Wheel, they give *Opium* to bereave them of their Senses, and make them insensible of Pain. The Bodies of those that are sentenced to be hang'd are never cut down, unless begged and granted for Anatomizing; and it is a nauseous miserable Spectacle, to behold Corps so suspended, in various Degrees of

of Putrefaction and Consumption, by the Elements and Birds of Prey gorging upon them. All Persons under Denunciation of Death are allow'd, at the Publick Expence, Victuals and Drink of the very best they have a Mind to make Choice of; but in those Circumstances they seldom are luxurious: And about half way to the Gallows, there is a little Booth built on Purpose, with an Inscription on it, where the Prisoners stop, and have as much Wine given them as they will drink: This Custom is supported in Imitation of the Eastern Practice of giving Wine to alleviate the Sense of an inevitable approaching Destiny; and some have drunk so largely, as to be heartily intoxicated before they were turn'd off.

Its Force.

They maintain no more Soldiers in Peace, than are sufficient to relieve the Guard-Houses, where there is one at every Gate, and a Watch upon the Ramparts; for which no more than about three Hundred Men are required. They can easily upon Occasion raise upwards of ten Thousand, and have had an Army of sixty Thousand. In 1655, this City strenuously adher'd to the Interest of *John Casimir V. King of Poland*, formerly a Jesuit and Cardinal, whom *Charles Gustavus King of Sweden* fell upon, and took *Masovia*, with all *Poland*, properly so called, and all *Royal Prussia*,
except

except *Dantzick*, which shut up its Gates upon him, and stood by *Casimir* beyond Expectation, when all the World besides had deserted him; so that the Faithfulness of this City, put a Barrier to the *Swedish* Victories, sav'd the Kingdom, and occasion'd five Years after an honourable Conclusion of the War, by the Peace agreed upon at the Monastery of *Oliva*, Anno 1660. This King voluntarily resign'd his Kingdom in 1668, after a Reign of twenty Years, and died 1672, at *Nevers* a Monastery in *France*.

One of the Burgher Masters, or his immediate Deputy in Person, are obliged to go every Night about the Walls, in his Coach, attended with a Guard, to see that all the Sentinels are upon Duty, and other Things kept in right Order.

When the King of *Poland* enters any City in his Dominions, the Magistrates always bring him the Keys; and he has Power to make his own Regiment of Guards; keep Watch at the Gates. But the Citizens of *Dantzick* alone have the Privilege of guarding their own Gates; nay they have a Right to hinder any Forces entering along with the King, and to go the Rounds all Night in the Streets, as long as he stays within their Walls. There are Persons that go about the Streets all the Year round as Night Watches, and constantly give a Signal of the Hour, which resembles the Noise of a Child's Rattle.

Its RELIGION and CHURCHES.

Dantzick was the first Town in *Poland* that shook off the Fetters of Popery in a tumultuous Manner, as though they had been inspired with a sudden Conviction, superior to a long Course of Reasoning. They begun with deposing the old Common-Council Men who were Papists, created new Ones of their own, profaned the Churches, robbed them of their Ornaments, abolished the Mass, abus'd the Priests and Religious Persons, and alter'd all Things at their Pleasure. This was about the Year 1525, in the Reign of *Sigismund I.* who subdued *Prussia*; at which Time they embraced the *Lutheran* Persuasion.

Sigismund durst not oppose this Reformation, because he was afraid of engaging in a War with the *Teutonic* Knights, the Peace which he had made with them being nigh expired; and *Sigismund Augustus* his Successor, having afterwards received the Homage and Oath of Fidelity to himself and the Republick, from *Albert I.* Duke of *Prussia*, confirm'd the People of *Prussia*, in their antient Rights and Privileges, and gave them Leave also to make open Profession of *Luther's* Doctrine, according to the *Augsburg* Confession. This same *Albert* founded the University of *Konigsberg*, Anno 1544.

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At present, the major Part of the Inhabitants are *Lutherans*, and are possessed of most and the largest Churches, which belonged to the Papists, and resign'd conditionally to them, that they should not violate their Altars, which accordingly are kept close shut up, in the Condition they received them: The rest are *Calvinists*, *Roman Catholics*, and *Manists*, a sort of *Anabaptists*. There is an entire Liberty of Conscience, and a Toleration for all Religions, yet in such a Manner, that the *Lutheran* is the established or prevailing One; and the whole Civil Government is in their Hands, none of the other Sects being admitted to a Share: Of these I shall treat in their Order. First, beginning with the Dome, or great Church of *St. Mary's*, and then briefly of the rest.

I. Of the L U T H E R A N Churches.

Description of the Lutheran Dohm Church St. Mary's.

What we call Minsters, or Cathedrals, they term *Dohm Churches*: This of *St. Mary* is the most spacious in all *Dantzick*, situated in the Center of the *Reichstadt*; the West-End facing *Joppen-Gass* and the *Arsenal*, and the East *Frawen-Gass*. The Out-side is all of Brick, and makes but a dirty Appearance. The Steeple is square and clumsy, but very
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high. Upon the Top of it is a continual Watch kept Night and Day, to give the Alarm in Case any Fire should happen. The Signal given to the Inhabitants in what Quarter of the Town or Suburbs it begins, is known to all by the Number of Strokes he repeats upon a Bell: Besides this Steeple, there are several small high Spires, covered with Copper, and painted Green: The Inside far exceeds our Expectation of it from without. The Service Place engrosses it all, without any Separation, as is usual in our Cathedrals. At the North Door, just at your entring close to the West End, is a handsome Tomb of mix'd Marble, with two fine Pyramids, carried up very high; and what contributes to the Solemnity of it, is its Grandeur, Height, Cleanness, Monuments, several beautiful painted Chappels round it, and the Confession Place. But the following Curiosities deserve a more particular Regard.

1. The sumptuous fine large East Altar, of curious Workmanship, carv'd and carried up in Spires, with several Partitions, all gilt on the Outside, and representing many Parts of the sacred History: A Pair of folding Doors open, and expose two or three Images to View, the Performance being reputed very estimable.

2. An Image of the Virgin *Mary*, as big as the Life, preserv'd in a Box plac'd against one of the Pillars, the Work of a Mechanick, whilst

whilst under Sentence of Death, who, for presenting it to the Church, and the Excellency of the Piece, obtained his Pardon.

3. On the North Side, nigh to the confessing Place, is a little Altar, about two Yards square, always lock'd up but when it is shewn to Strangers, wherein is painted the General Day of Judgment, with the State of the Blessed and Damned. A Piece inestimable for its Fineness, and cannot be sufficiently express'd: The Joy, Serenity and Comfort, so lively flowing from the Countenances of the one; and the Horror, Anguish and Despair, so shockingly delineated in the other; both natural Results from the different Tempers of Mind, which pass as it were a previous Judgment upon themselves, before they are actually condemned, are such Contrasts, as are not to be imitated. This admirable Piece is reported to have been found in a Wreck, and attributed to the Performance of two Brothers, *George* and *John Eickel*, who painted each a Part, and referr'd it to a Judge for the Preference, which he gave in Favour of him who had painted the State of the Blessed; the other, through Vexation thereat, cut his Throat. Both their own Pictures are drawn with great Likeness, with *Justice* weighing in a Pair of Scales, one against the other, to determine their Conditions; but the Self-Murderer proves too light by far, and so is assign'd over to the Number of the Condemned.

demned. A King of *France* offered to give for this Piece One Hundred Thousand Guilders, which is above Six Thousand Pounds.

4. Behind this is an orbicular Piece of Work, resembling a large Dial Plate to a Clock, with the Planets thereon, and Abundance of other Designs, said to be a Machine, invented by an ingenious Mechanick, to find out the perpetual Motion, which he had carried on so successfully, that some of his Enemies, envying him the Reputation he was like to gain by it, suborn'd Persons to seize him, and put out his Eyes; which was accordingly done, and the Piece left unfinish'd.

5. Crossing over to the South Side of the Grand East Altar to the Right Hand, is fixed a little square Piece on the Wall, whereon the Resurrection is engraved. But what is a little remarkable, considering the Sanctity of the Place, there is a naked Man and a Woman, cut out in a Size much larger than the rest, in an indecent Posture.

6. The magnificent Font, all rail'd with fine wrought Brass above a Man's Height, with a double Door of the same, is kept very bright, and a Work of great Art and Labour, said to have cost Eighty Thousand Guilders, or Five Thousand Pounds.

7. The Three Branch'd Candlestick of Brass, hung in the main Nave, besides two single ones, plac'd on every Altar, being forty-three in Number, made use of by the Papists, when
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in their Possession, but since shut up, from the Time of their resigning it to the *Lutherans*, and in all Likelihood they will never enjoy it again.

It is divided into three Naves or Isles. All the Pillars, just under the Capitals, have emblematical Pieces of Painting round them, extracted from Parts of the Scripture, with the Places they are taken from.

Lastly, There are three Organs in this Church: The largest placed at the West End; the Second joins to it in the North Isle; and the Third is on the North Side of the great Altar. Besides what is common to them, they have several peculiar Pipes in them, which counterfeit a Choir of Human Voices exceeding natural.

The next Churches to this for Grandeur, are *St. John's* Church, beyond the *Brent Gasse* or *Broad Street*, and the *Grey Monks* Church in the *Fore City*, in which is interred the renowned *Keckerman*, with a Monument over him.

CALVINIST CHURCHES.

The *Calvinists*, or Reformed, have two Churches dedicated to *St. Elizabeth* and *St. Peter*; the former is the lesser by much, and situated beyond the *Holtz-Marckt* in the *Altstadt*; the other, *St. Peter's*, is a very spacious one in the *Forestadt*, with some Altars
shut

shut up as before, and a very large Crucifix upon a Cross Beam in the middle, so preserved by Agreement, from its Concession to them by the *Papists*; for, by Principle, the *Calvinists* are as averse to either of those in Publick Worship, as the most rigid of the Dissenters amongst us are to the Use of the Sign of the Cross, or a white Surplice.

POPISH CHURCHES.

At the End of the Street, where the great *Lutheran Church of St. John* stands, the *Roman Catholicks* have a spacious Convent of *Dominican Monks*, which serves for a Parish Church to all that reside in the Town; wherein is a Pulpit made of Walnut, of singular Beauty, and the finest in all *Dantzick*. It enjoys peculiar Privileges, as a Place of Protection.

In the *Holy Ghost Street*, there is a pretty new regular small *Popish* Chappel for the Service of the *Poles*, with a handsome *Cupola*, Leaded without, and very ornamentally painted within. The *Jesuits* have also a fine College in the Suburbs, where there is likewise a Nunnery: Two of the *Jesuits* Society come daily to perform Service and Mass in the new built *Polish* Chappel, but are not permitted to stay in the Town over Night. There are two Fryars of the Order of *Capucin Mendicants*, who go about a begging from House to House in their Habits; and another Order of

of Brethren, called *Fratres Misericordiæ*, who from what they collect apply in Charities; to the Harboursing Strangers, whom they find in real Want, and the Curing poor sick Persons, without Distinction of whatsoever Religion they profess.

The Pope has a Nuncio or Priest here, which they call the Official; and what is very remarkable, the *Lutherans* acknowledge his Power, in several Ecclesiastical Cases, as Licences, and Liberty given to marry in a Degree forbidden by the Canons. But what brings him in a round Sum, is his being Judge of all Debauches made upon the Girls, who fines the Party complained of, according to his Circumstances, which goes chiefly into his Purse; so for that Reason he gives several *Filles de Joie* a Dispensation to whore, in order to arraign them to him for the Abuse.

ANABAPTISTS.

These go generally by the Name of *Manists*, and have their particular religious Meetings. They are great Traders: Like our *Quakers*, they are singular and precise in their Dress, but go always clothed in black; yet in point of good Manners and Affability, they are the very Reverse, and the Quintessence of Courtesy.

In the whole Town and Suburbs, there are above twenty publick Churches of all Religions;

gions; and in some of the Church-yards, during the excessive Heats, they have a refreshing Shelter from the Sun under thick shady Trees, where they have Pulpits, Pews and Benches, and perform their Worship in open Air.

The ENGLISH CHAPPEL *and* FACTORY.

Mr. *Robinson* our Envoy to *Sweden*, afterwards made Bishop of *London*, procur'd Permission for the publick Exercise of the *English* Liturgy for the Use of our Factory. Accordingly a House was purchased for the Minister's Residence, which is a very good one, and a neat pretty regular Chappel above Stairs, finished *Anno* 1707, toward the End of the *Heiligen gerst*, or *Holy Ghost Street*. The Nomination is in the Bishop of *London*, and his Salary a Thousand Gilders a Year, which is above Sixty Pounds, besides a Perquisite of a Crown from every *British* Ship that arrives. In short, 'tis a pretty Preferment and Beginning for a young Man; who, if he be agreeable in Principle with the Factory, and hearty for the Revolution, may clear a hundred Pounds a Year, possess an excellent House, Rent-free, and have his Maintenance into the Bargain, by the voluntary Kindness of one or other to him. The Minister, when I was there, was called *D——son*: He was in his Living a Man of good Morality, in his

his State of Health *Hypocon*: But an open bigotted *Jacobite*, with whom were joined about half a Dozen more. At the Queen's Death, and during the Time of the *Preston* Rebellion, he actually refus'd praying for King *George*, till it was confirmed in whose Favour Affairs succeeded. This Behaviour of his lost him all Respect, and occasion'd a great part of his Congregation to leave him, who chose rather to hold Communion with the *Calvinists*, than join in a Worship where the Priest us'd constant Prevarication in Praying.

The Number of *English* and *Scotch* *Con-
toirs*, that were not Natives, did not exceed half a Score: There us'd to be a good Harmony between them, and they met every Evening together at the Widow of Major *Shelden's*, where was a daily Ordinary of good Victuals dress'd after our Manner for twenty four *Grosb*, or a Shilling a Man, but now they are divided. The best Traders resorted to *John du Mair's*, a noted Tavern, where Abundance of *Holland* and *Dutch* Merchants daily frequented. The Factory also had a large Country-House, nigh the *Olive*, with a spacious fine Garden belonging to it; but they had quitted that too: So that the good Understanding when I was there, was not so firm amongst them, as it used to be. This I must own is a Digression, but my own Country extorted it from me.

The JEWS.

The *Jews* flock in great Numbers, at several Times in the Year, especially when the *Poles* bring up their Goods, being the only Persons who negotiate the Bargains for them, and have Ways and Means to cheat them; for they have Capacity enough to transact Affairs, and are subtle Knaves into the Bargain. They are the dirtiest slovenest Creatures to be amongst civilized People of any under Heaven: Their filthy tatter'd Habits come down to their Heels, and they prune their Beards differently, according to the Pattern of that Tribe which they claim a Descent from, and are a nauseous Disgrace to. These *Polish Jews* are not permitted to come upon the Exchange, nor have a Synagogue, which are two particular Discouragements, where a general Liberty is permitted to all others.

Dantzick is a University, and has a College in the *Forestadt*, with Professors in all Faculties, and a fine publick Library. The Students are numerous, and not tied strictly to Rules, for they lodge in the Town where they please, and are in their Conduct the wildest Persons in it. *Cluverius* the eminent Geographer was born and liv'd here.

I shall just touch upon a few Things besides, and so draw to a finishing.

The SHOOTING-GARDEN.

The Burghers *Schiefs Garten*, deserves a Stranger's Notice; where the young Men exercise themselves almost every Day, and become thereby very dextrous at an Aim. The Yard is a very large one, and the Marks about five Hundred Paces long. Three Companies can shoot at a Time, without interfering with one another. The Pieces they make use of are rifling Pieces, whose Barrels are screwed or bored, and will carry a Ball a vast way with great Force and Exactness. The Locks of them are very curious Workmanship, and with the lightest Touch of the Tricker discharges. At the End, opposite to the Marks they shoot at, they have a Square all cover'd, full on all sides of little Cupboards painted with Devices, and several Motto's, where every one keeps his respective Piece in the utmost Brightness and Order; and over-against each Cupboards, to the Square, they have a Drawer for all their necessary Tackles, and Room for charging, which they do with the utmost Facility or Exactness. Their Marks are large globular Paintings of a *Hercules*, a Ship, or any thing they have a Mind to fancy; where, after they have discharged at it, they need not stir an Inch; for a little Distance on one Side of the Mark, there is a strong secure Hutt built, where a Man sits

facing it; and if the Bullet hits, points with a Signal he has in his Hand to the Place, and afterwards stops the Hole up. Some of them are so expert at a Level Aim, that every Shot, by a single Bullet, would prove mortal at a considerable Distance. This Place is situated out of the great Gate to the right Hand, on the other Side of the second Draw-Bridge, leading to the *Olive Gate*.

2. Before the *Olive Gate*, in the large Space, a fine Ground Plan was thrown into Form and Order, in 1721, at the City's Charges, consisting of regular Allies, Plantations of Trees and Ever-Greens, sloping Banks, Grass and Gravel Walks, which, when it grows up, will be a delightful publick Spot.

3. On the outer side of the said Gate, leading to the *Olive*, on each side of the broad high Road, are two Avenues nigh a Mile long, planted with Willows, which make a noble Shade, and a most agreeable Visto. That to the right Hand is most even and regular. This Road conveys People to a Variety of publick Pleasure Houses and Villages, as *Green Hoff Longford*, &c. where are delicious Gardens and fine Woods for all manner of Recreations and Entertainments. Beyond which Villages, all under a Range of fine woody Hills to the *Olive* (a sumptuous and rich endowed Cloister) and as far as High Water, a Place half a Mile further, very much frequented all the Year round for its charming
Situa-

Situation, is a semicircular Piece of Ground, of some Miles Extension, that would justly be called a Terrestrial Paradise, if the Inhabitants were but possessed of a Simplicity of Manners, suitable for such a Station. The whole consists of Merchants Country-Seats, and Gardens which Nature, by her Profuseness, at a small Expence, has finish'd to their Hands, abounding with Woods, Springs and Ponds; and before them all, is a rich champagne open Plain, diversified here and there with pleasant Groves of Pine and Fir-Trees; and beyond them is an enlarged Prospect of the great Arm of the Sea, called the *Road*, together with a View of the *Munde*, all Ships at Anchor, coming in and going out. The like Number of various Pleasure-Houses and Country Seats are interspers'd all along out of the Suburbs of *Schotland*, as far as the Village of *Praust* four Miles Distance.

As I begun the Description of *Dantzick* with its Antiquity and Revolutions which befall it at sundry Times, collected from our best Historians; so I shall end it with an Account of the various Impositions it has sustain'd within our Remembrance, since the Election of their last deceased King the Elector of *Saxony* in 1697, whom they as violently espoused against the *French* Competitor the Prince of *Conti* then, as they earnestly embrace it now for the Person of *Stanislaus*, against his Son the present Elector:

So changing are the Fickleness of those States, that cannot defend themselves, and lie expos'd to the Temptations of the first and best Offerer.

In 1697, the Prince of *Conti* arriv'd in the Month of *September*, in nineteen Days, from *Dunkirk* to *Dantzick*. He sent a Gentleman to notify his Arrival to the Magistrates, and desire a free Passage through the City: To which they answer'd, that they had a great Respect for his Highness; but that the Elector of *Saxony* having been crowned, they could do no more than give him the Liberty to come ashore himself with his Servants alone, but not to suffer any Officers or Soldiers to land, or pass through their City. The Prince was much mortified at this Answer; but much more so, when four Days after he was an Eye-Witness of their Proclaiming his Rival with all imaginable Solemnity, which was a great Disappointment to his Party, who thought to have had their Rendezvous in that Place. They bought also several Pieces of Cannon and Ammunition, but the Magistrates would not suffer them to be carried away, and forbid the Inhabitants upon Pain of Death, to sell any Arms to Strangers.

In 1698, King *Augustus* was received by them in great Pomp; and the next Year had a Present made him of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars, instead of the Quarters which he demanded for his Soldiers, which one
would

would think is an odd Beginning of a Reign, upon a People that favoured his Accession; a hundred Thousand Dollars, being a Tun of Gold, or about Twenty Thousand Pounds.

In 1701, *Lewis XIV.* was upon their Backs for their Behaviour to the Prince of *Conti*, whom he obliged to ask Pardon, and advance him above a hundred Thousand Dollars; and seven Years after, in 1708, he had a fresh Demand on them for forty Thousand more, on Pretence of part of the old Score on the Prince of *Conti* still remaining unballanced.

In 1703, the glorious victorious, but afterwards mad King of *Sweden*, *Charles XII.* levied and forced them to pay him a round Sum, and likewise to renounce King *Augustus* whom they had proclaimed and received.

In 1707, they were compelled to acknowledge *Stanislaus* for their King, the same Person, whose Cause they are now espousing, to be chose King, at the Hazard of their Town being destroyed, if they do not abandon him, being the *Russians* and *Saxons* their Opposers are Masters already of all the Outworks and Passes, and hindering Communication both by Sea and Land.

In the same 1707, for the Reception of *Stanislaus*, the *Moscovites* blocked up their Town, and plundered their Territories.

In 1709, they were severely visited by the Plague, which swept off above forty Thousand of its Inhabitants.

The

The same Year, by a Reverse of Fortune in the King of Sweden's Affairs, who after the Battle of *Pultowa* was forced to fly into *Turkey*, they were compelled again to re-acknowledge *Augustus*, and to supply him at the same Time with a large Sum of Money, threatening to attack the City in Case of Denial. But the Inhabitants prevented his Approaches, by laying the Neighbourhood under Water.

In 1714, they paid the Czar a considerable Sum, upon his Promise to make no further Demands.

But in 1717, his Exigencies got the Ascendant of his Word and Honour, and he required a larger Sum than the former, together with a Supply of Ships.

Thus, in the Compass of twenty Years, has the rich City of *Dantzick* been bandied about as a Ball of Fortune, and a Prey to all Comers; and after sixteen Years Respite, they are now in a more pityable Condition than ever; I heartily wish them a fortunate Ex-trication out of them.

I have no more to say of this City, only that it disclaims the Jurisdiction of *Poland*; alledging, that it did not submit to the *Po-landers*, but to the King. To vindicate that Right of Exemption, the *Dantzickers* took up Arms in the Year 1576, and march'd as far as *Dirshow*, but were defeated by the Army of *Poland*; and afterwards, at the In-treaties

treaties of the Electors of *Saxony* and *Brandenburgh*, were forgiven by the King.

The best Accommodation for Travellers are in

The *Konigsberg Inn*,
 The *Emperor's Inn*,
 The *Gold Horse Shoes*,
 The *Three Moors*,
 The *Schipper Gild-House*;

And for *Englishmen* at the *English House* in *Brotbancken Gass*, the highest in all *Dantzick*, kept by one *Anderson*.

Dantzick is bounded on the East by the River *Weichsel* or *Vistula*. On the South with *Proper Poland*. On the North with the *Baltick Sea*, and on the West with *Pomerania*.

Dantzick lies 24 Miles N. W. from *Marienburg*, 32 almost W. from *Elbing*, 76 N. of *Thorn*, 120 N. from *Guesna*, 150 N. W. from *Warsaw*, 260 N. of *Cracow*, 200 almost W. from *Grodno*, 260 W. and by S. from *Wilna*, and 80 Miles W. and by S. from *Konigsberg*, 260 S. W. from *Riga*, 460 ditto from *Narva*, 540 ditto from *St. Petersburg*, 220 N. E. from *Breslaw*, 280 ditto from *Dresden*, 300 ditto from *Prague*, and 440 almost N. of *Vienna*. Latitude 54 Deg. 13 Min. Longit. 40 Deg. 42 Min.

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II



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